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Dear Walt,

With further reference to your letter of 19 March to Mr. McCone on identifying passages in Khrushchev's speeches which he originated, we have explored Sir Harold Caccia's suggestion. Our conclusion is that while it might be theoretically possible to subject K's speeches to statistical analysis, using computer techniques, the results would probably be highly speculative, and the cost would be quite considerable. We conclude, therefore, that in the present state of research and knowledge of speech analysis by automated techniques, an effort along these lines at this time would not be worth the expense involved. Our Kremlinologists also point out that, even if computer techniques could be applied to this problem with a high certainty of success, there are other and more important pressing problems concerning the Soviet Union, its policies and leaders, for which they believe it would be more worthwhile to seek solutions through automation techniques.

Nevertheless, we are grateful to Sir Harold and you for the suggestion, and will keep it in mind for the future.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Lyman B. Kirkpatrick

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

✓
Hon. Walt W. Rostow
Counselor and Chairman
Policy Planning Council
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

ER